

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A method for the isolation of prostate stem cells comprising the selective enrichment of prostate stem cells which express CD133 antigen.
2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said stem cells also express high levels of $\alpha_2\beta_1$ integrin.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein said selective enrichment comprises the following steps:
 - i) providing a cell preparation comprising prostate cells derived from prostate tissue;
 - ii) providing cell culture conditions which allow the maintenance of said prostate cells in culture and the binding of said prostate cells to a collagen based matrix;
 - iii) selecting said bound cells wherein said cells express CD133 antigen.
4. A method according to Claim 3 wherein said method includes the additional steps of:
 - i) culturing cells which express CD133 antigen in culture medium comprising granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), stem cell factor (SCF) and leukaemia inhibitory factor (LIF); and
 - ii) passaging the selected cells in (i) in a serum free medium.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of Claims 1-4~~ Claim 3 wherein said selected cells express epithelial antigen.
6. (Original) A method according to Claim 5 wherein said antigen is human epithelial antigen.
7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of Claims 1-6~~ Claim 3 wherein said selected cells express CD44 antigen.
8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of Claims 1-7~~ Claim 3 wherein said prostate ~~derived~~ tissue comprises cancerous prostate cells.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 8 wherein said cancerous prostate cells are ~~derived from metastatic prostate derived tissue~~.
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim ~~[[9]]~~ 8 wherein said cancerous prostate cells are ~~derived from a primary and metastatic prostate tumours~~ tumour.
11. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of Claims 1-10~~ Claim 3 wherein said collagen based matrix comprises collagen I.
12. (Currently Amended) A prostate stem cell obtainable by the method of Claim 1 ~~according to any of Claims 1-11~~.
13. (Original) A prostate stem cell according to Claim 12 wherein said cell is a prostate cancer stem cell.
14. (Original) A prostate stem cell according to Claim 13 wherein said stem cell is cloned.
15. (Original) A cell culture of substantially pure prostate stem cells wherein said cells express CD133 antigen.
16. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to Claim 15 wherein said ~~cloned~~ cells are prostate cancer stem cells.
17. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to Claim 16 wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express ~~high levels of~~ $\alpha_2\beta_1$ integrin.
18. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to Claim 16 ~~or 17~~ wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express epithelial antigen.
19. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to Claim 18 wherein said epithelial antigen is human epithelial antigen.
20. (Currently Amended) A cell culture according to ~~any of Claims 16-19~~ Claim 16 wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express CD44 antigen.

21. (Currently Amended) A culture according to Claim 16 wherein said prostate cancer stem cells express CD133 antigen, ~~high levels of $\alpha_2\beta_1$~~ integrin, human epithelial antigen and CD44 antigen.

Claims 22-74 (Canceled)